Southwest Fisheries Science Center
8604 L Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92038

September 14, 2004
F/SWSC1:JLB

CRUISE ANNOUNCEMENT

VESSEL: Research Vessel David Starr Jordan

CRUISE DATES: August 28 – Sept. 7, 2004

PROJECT: Southwest Fisheries Science Center
Fisheries Resources Division
Deep Water Abalone Survey

ITINERARY: Depart San Diego, CA 0730 August 28, 2004 to Tanner Bank to conduct ROV surveys of deep water abalone habitat. On September 7 return to San Diego.

OBJECTIVES: Survey deep water abalone on rocky habitat Tanner Banks.

PROCEDURES: At each dive site the ship will deploy the ROV and the scientific party will survey deep water abalone 30 to 60m with a ROV. Transect lines will be stratified into three depth strata, 30-40, 40-50, and 50-60. Transects will be 1 km in length and will run along isobaths within the depth strata. This will require close coordination between ship and ROV pilot.

Because the surveys are targeting areas with rocky substrate and reefs, extreme caution will be used when operating the ROV. Given potential inclement weather situations, the ROV will be deployed only in areas where it is deemed safe to operate, (i.e. in current of 2.5 kts or less and visibility above 2 nm).

ROV OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE PORT SIDE. THE WIND SHOULD BE ON THE PORT SIDE DURING ALL LAUNCHING AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS.

The ROV will be tracked using a directional hydrophone mounted on the STARBOARD side of the ship. The hydrophone will be deployed prior to launching the ROV. A down weight will be lowered just below the water surface from the PORT CTD winch. The ROV will be launched using the articulating crane. The ROV will be maneuvered away from the ship and the umbilical will be attached to the wire. The down weight and ROV will be lowered simultaneously. Recovery of the ROV will reverse the launching procedure. THE WIND SHOULD BE ON THE PORT SIDE DURING RECOVERY OPERATIONS. The ship and ROV will operate together to make transects from deep (about 60m) to shallow (about 30m). A remote monitor on the bridge will display the ship and ROV positions to facilitate coordination.

EQUIPMENT: Phantom S2 ROV
ORE Trackpoint system
Color TV monitors

Under water Lasers
Portable digital video recorder
Tethers
Tether reel

Special Equipment:

Pole and mount for directional hydrophone
Brace welded at water line to support hydrophone pole